

Specified Risk Materials (SRMs) Definition for the European Union

PDF - SPECIFIED RISK MATERIALS CERTIFICATION to be included with the following Regulation (EC) 1774/2002 animal by-products and processed products derived from bovine, bovine and caprine materials

- **Rendered fats,**
- **pet food**
- **blood products**
- **processed animal protein**
- **bone and bone products**
- **category 3 materials, and**
- **gelatine**

The following is the most current information that we have regarding the definition of SRMs for the European Union. **NOTE: Specific countries, such as France, may have different requirements.**

Specified Risk Materials include:

1. as regards bovine animals:
 - (a) the skull excluding the mandible and including the brain and eyes, and the spinal cord of animals aged over 12 months;
 - (b) the vertebral column excluding the vertebrae of the tail, the spinous and transverse processes of the cervical, thoracic and lumbar vertebrae and the median sacral crest and wings of the sacrum, but including the dorsal root ganglia of animals aged over 24 months; and
 - (c) the tonsils, the intestines from the duodenum to the rectum and the mesentery of animals of all ages.
2. as regards ovine and caprine animals
 - (a) the skull including the brain and eyes, the tonsils and the spinal cord of animals aged over 12 months or which have a permanent incisor erupted through the gum, and
 - (b) the spleen and ileum of animals of all ages.
3. mechanically separated meat obtained from bones of bovine, ovine or caprine animals;
4. animal by-product derived from animals which have been slaughtered after stunning by means of gas injected into the cranial cavity or killed by the same method or slaughtered by laceration of central nervous tissue by means of an elongated rod-shaped instrument introduced into the cranial cavity**

**After consulting with FSIS in D.C. Veterinary Services has determined that the captive bolt is used in most plants. There are 2 types; one using a cartridge similar to a bullet to drive the bolt into the brain and the other using air (pneumatic captive bolt) to drive the bolt into the brain (air is not injected into the cranial cavity). Both of these methods are acceptable and do not fall under the banned methods described above.